



# 2012 - 2013 Local School Plan For Improvement

## LSPI Objectives

### NORCROSS HIGH

William Bishop, *Principal*

Kelli McCain, *Area Superintendent*

Accountability and flexibility are hallmarks of Gwinnett County Public Schools' success. Key to that success is ensuring that each school community understands the progress being made by its schools, as well as what plans will drive improvement. Each school creates a collaborative Local School Plan for Improvement (LSPI), with targeted goals based on student achievement results. These goals are dynamic, like our schools, and are updated to reflect changes that occur in schools. Data is used to determine areas needing improvement and to identify specific, measurable, annual objectives. Schools then determine how to use research-based strategies to achieve these goals, using flexibility as needed. The LSPI development process involves teachers, parents, and community members, so the entire school community has the opportunity to be involved in conversations about school improvement. Please contact the local school principal for more information about the school's plan and progress.

#### 2012-2013 Long Term Goals and Objectives

**Goal:** Our mission is to assure high levels of learning for all students.

**Objective:** Norcross High School will improve student achievement for all students by:

- continuing to improve our school wide writing initiative
- refocusing collaborative planning on student learning

# NORCROSS HIGH

## LSPI Continued

William Bishop, *Principal*

Kelli McCain, *Area Superintendent*

### 2012-2013 Long Term Goals and Objectives

**Goal:** Every student at Norcross High School will graduate within four years, demonstrating knowledge and skills necessary to enter college or career of his or her choice.

**Objective:** Norcross High School will increase the graduation rate for all students by:

- implementing the STARS program
- improving student attendance
- implementing the After School Matters program

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## LSPI Continued

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### Schools Goals - NORCROSS HIGH

Goal Title	Goal	Start School Year	End School Year
Four Years to Graduation	Every student at Norcross High School will graduate within four years, demonstrating knowledge and skills necessary to enter college or career of his or her choice.	2011-12	2014-15
Improving Student Achievement for All Students.	Our mission is to assure high levels of learning for all students.	2012-13	2015-16

### Annual Objective

Norcross High School will improve student achievement for all students by:

- continuing to improve our school wide writing initiative
- refocusing collaborative planning on student learning

### Associated Goals

**Goal:** Improving Student Achievement for All Students.

### Implementation Design

# NORCROSS HIGH

## LSPi Continued

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### **Refocus Collaborative Planning on Student Learning**

Course teams will focus on student learning by focusing on the follow tasks during course team meetings:

- \* Determine which standards are essential standards and how they should be assessed.
- \* Develop calendars/timeline which reflects the importance of essential standards.
- \* Find ways to assist students in understanding curriculum expectations.
- \* Create cognitively engaging lessons within their course that include differentiated instruction.
- \* Develop formative assessment strategies for each unit.
- \* Analyze common data and share what works with course team.
- \* Use data to determine learning gaps and provide students with appropriate, directive, timely, and targeted intervention.

**SD:** Sacred Wednesday Curriculum Team Meetings

See Annual Objective for a description of Sacred Wednesday expectations and guidelines.

### **School wide writing initiative**

NHS Writing Initiative:

- (a) All teachers will teach, implement, and model the CD/CM/Essay writing model.
- (b) Teachers will assign, grade, and give feedback on 3 formal writings each semester as outlined in the NHS Writing Initiative. 9th and 10th grade teachers will have students complete 2 document based questions and 1 formal essay. 11th and 12th grade teachers will assign at least one persuasive (completed early September for 11th grade) and a minimum of 1 document based question.
- (c) All 10th grade SS and SC teachers will give a gateway test to be scored by the Georgia Center for Assessment. A plan is being developed for students to be trained before and after on Gateway best practices.
- (d) All teachers will maintain a copy of all writing assignments, the rubric, and a high, medium and low student exemplar in a writing notebook.
- (e) Teachers will attend a professional learning day where they will utilize smaller chunks of writing as formative assessments.

### **Annual Objective**

Norcross High School will increase the graduation rate for all students by:

- implementing the STARS program

# NORCROSS HIGH

## LSPI Continued

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- improving student attendance
- implementing the After School Matters program

### Associated Goals

**Goal:** Four Years to Graduation

### Implementation Design

#### After School Matters

After School Matters is a program that was designed to make after school time productive and fun for Norcross teenagers. The mission of the program is to get more of our students graduated and prepared for college or a career. The goals of the program are to increase engagement with school, cultivate different talents, lift self-confidence, and to decrease the likelihood of risky behaviors. The intention of the program is to not only bring in a caring adult, but also a distinctive set of interests, skills, and activities that will create a unique experience for each student. - - -

#### ASM Program History:

Norcross High School piloted an after school program named After School Matters for five weeks in the spring of 2012. Fifty-two students participated in the program ranging from 9-12th grade and they had the opportunity each Monday and Wednesday to get help with their homework or study for a test from a certified math or science teacher, as well as several IB and AP students. After 75 minutes of tutoring, students went to a planned activity for 75 minutes. The activities that were introduced to the students during the pilot were cooking, arts and crafts, exercise and fitness, and digital technology. After several weeks, the students realized how much their grades were improving in the classroom and they were having fun learning about new activities. These students were our biggest advocates and each week we would have additional students to add to our program.

# NORCROSS HIGH

## LSPI Continued

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### Improving Student Attendance

Attendance monitoring and intervention process:

- (a) Daily automated phone calls will be made to the home of students who were absent.
- (b) Follow up will occur with teachers who do not take attendance.
- (c) If a student is absent for three consecutive days, teachers will contact parents and make notes in Pinpoint regarding the conversation (parent response, make up work, focus of conversation, etc.).
- (d) At five unexcused absences a letter will be sent home from the Attendance Office. A copy letter will be forwarded to the student's counselor. Each counselor will contact a parent and make notes of the conversation on the letter which should be filed in the student's discipline record. A summary of the conversation should also be put in the conference atom in SASI.
- (e) At seven unexcused absences a letter will be sent home from the Attendance Office. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the student's Assistant Principal. Each Assistant Principal will contact a parent and make notes of the conversation on the letter which should be filed in the student's discipline record. A summary of the conversation should also be put in the conference atom in SASI.
- (f) At ten unexcused absences a letter will be sent home. If the student is under 16, A Student Attendance Review Committee (SARC) meeting will be scheduled. If the student is 16 or above, the Assistant Principal will conduct a parent conference. A summary should be entered in the conference atom of SASI.

### STARS Program

\*STARS: The S.T.A.R.S. Program is committed to the success of the 9th grade students by limiting the number of academic failures, reducing absenteeism, and decreasing referrals. .” The four elements involved in the program include: (1) acting as a guide/mentor, (2) providing academic support (3) encouraging parental support (4) and offering extracurricular opportunities beyond the scope of academics. The Program Goals are: Academic Development, Social Development, Counseling Services, and Parent Involvement.